

343557

**Nickerson, Debra <OST>**

**From:** Eisner, Neil <OST>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2005 5:37 PM  
**To:** Ray, James <OST>; Kaleta, Judith <FTA>; Nickerson, Debra <OST>  
**Subject:** RE: Indiana Counties Central Time Proposal

OST-2005-22114-10

Debra,

Would you send this to the docket and get the name of the docket person handling this to Bill Mosley so that he can submit any comments directly to them in the future.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Ray, James <OST>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2005 4:36 PM  
**To:** Eisner, Neil <OST>; Kaleta, Judith <FTA>  
**Subject:** FW: Indiana Counties Central Time Proposal

FYI

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mosley, Bill H <OST>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2005 4:05 PM  
**To:** Petrie, Joanne <OST>; Ray, James <OST>  
**Subject:** FW: Indiana Counties Central Time Proposal

FYI

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mike Petras [mailto:mike@fpcsouthbend.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2005 4:06 PM  
**To:** Mosley, Bill H <OST>  
**Subject:** Indiana Counties Central Time Proposal

Bill-

I'm a concerned citizen and business owner in St Joe County Indiana. I was disappointed to learn that our county elected officials will soon be sending to you a proposal to put St Joe County on central time. As I'm sure you already know, the time issue here in Indiana and St Joe County has been a deeply divided emotional issue with no clear majority. Our elected county officials seem to take sides with whoever yells the most vs carefully studying the issue and doing what is right. The majority of Hoosiers want Indiana on **one** time zone---not a matrix of counties on different times.

Our family moved here a number of years ago from Pennsylvania and we have ever since been totally dumbfounded as to why Indiana is so radical about not wanting to observe daylight savings time, like the rest of the states. Although, DST is now law, the number of articles that appear in our newspaper over this issue is amazing and annoying. Some of these articles say, "common sense dictates that we not change or that we go to Central Time". When I read this, it is clear that Hoosiers who think that Central Time is better for St Joe County don't have any common sense.

Consider this scientific fact-----if St Joe County goes to Central Time, we get zero benefit from Daylight Savings Time. In December, it will get dark shortly after 4:00PM. Why would anyone want it to get dark at this time? Someone please explain to me how I benefit from that. In June, it will get light at 4:30AM. Is that common sense? The whole idea of daylight savings time is to take advantage of the longer days and to better align our lifestyles around daylight. Wouldn't any St Joe County resident enjoy a nice walk or bike ride at 7:30PM in September or October when the weather is still pretty good? On central time it will be dark at this time for months on end with only indoor activities. How about our elderly driving to the store or going out to visit someone in the early evening? Don't Hoosiers care about the safety of their parents and grandparents? Or what about your kids coming home from an extracurricular school activity in the dark at 4:30PM in December? Is this what we really want? Lastly, St Joe County borders the state of Michigan, and to our east, Elkhart County in Indiana. For most of us, we can be in either place in 10 minutes. If we are switched to CST, can you imagine the confusion this will cause St Joe County residents? If you drive 10 minutes to the north, south, or east---you will be in another time zone. Also, a lot of residents of St Joe County vacation and visit the shore communities of Lake Michigan---a 45-60 minute to drive to the west of St Joe County. Does it make sense to drive an hour west of St Joe County and be in EST zone?

8/25/2005

The *real* issue among many Hoosiers is not what time zone we're in, but switching our clocks a couple of times a year. When our state government wisely decided to observe daylight savings time, the "don't-mess-with-my-clock-gang" were sore losers and have now taken up the cross on the central vs eastern time zone debate. They obviously haven't thought this through and are just being sore losers. I only hope the Federal DOT has the common sense to leave St Joe County on eastern time now that we will be observing DST. Please stop the insanity in Indiana by just leaving us where we belong---in the eastern time zone. Thanks.

Mike Petras  
Granger, IN



Mike Petras  
President  
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